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NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

SUMMARY

The present report contains two draft resolutions and three draft decisions on matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council.

By draft resolution I, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations recommends that the Council request the Committee to present its views on its enlargement to the Council, and that the Council decide to take a decision on the matter in 1998.

By draft resolution II, the Committee recommends that the Council request the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session setting out specific proposals to ensure that the workload of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section can be met effectively and efficiently, and recommends that the General Assembly provide the necessary human, financial and technical resources to the Section to enable it to carry out its responsibilities efficiently, effectively and expeditiously.

By draft decision I, the Committee recommends to the Council that consultative status be granted to 142 non-governmental organizations that had applied.

By draft decision II, the Committee requests the Council to authorize the Committee to hold a resumed session in order to complete the work of its 1997 session.

By draft decision III, the Committee requests the Council to authorize the Committee to hold a maximum of three sessions with a total duration of three weeks in 1998 and subsequent years.

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I. MATTERS CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

A. Draft resolutions

1. The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Enlargement of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its decision 1995/304, by which it decided, inter alia, to increase, on the basis of equitable geographical representation, the current membership of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations and to implement that decision after the completion of its review of arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations,

Considering that, consistent with the practice of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies in these matters, it would be desirable to receive the views of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on this question,

Recognizing that the Committee is at present undertaking a review of its methods of work, that this review could have implications for the enlargement of the Committee, and that the Committee is therefore not yet in a position to present its final views to the Council,

1. Requests the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to present its views on the enlargement of the Committee to the Council;

2. Decides to take a decision on this matter in 1998.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Strengthening of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the United Nations Secretariat

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting that growing interest in the work of the United Nations on the part of non-governmental organizations has led to a very large increase in the number of applications for consultative status with the Economic and Social Council,

Noting also that the increase in the number of non-governmental organizations entails a consequent increase in the number of quadrennial reports to be considered by the Committee,

Recognizing the need for further improvements in the working methods of the Committee,

Recalling that in its resolution 1996/31, the Council placed additional responsibilities on the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the Secretariat,

Recognizing the efforts of the staff of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section to respond to the vastly increased demands placed upon it in recent years,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session setting out specific proposals to ensure that the current and foreseeable workload of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section can be met effectively and efficiently;

2. Recommends that the General Assembly, taking into account the report of the Secretary-General and measures taken by the Committee to improve its methods of work and to deal with this workload, provide the necessary human, financial and technical resources to the Non-Governmental Organizations Section to enable it to carry out its responsibilities, as set out in Council resolution 1996/31, efficiently, effectively and expeditiously.

B. Draft decisions

2. The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

DRAFT DECISION I

Applications for consultative status

The Economic and Social Council decides to grant the following non-governmental organizations consultative status:

General consultative status

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)

Arab Towns Organization

Association for Women in Development, the (AWID)

Comité directeur international sur la promotion économique des femmes rurales (CDI)

Green Cross International (GCI)

ORBICOM, Réseau des chaires UNESCO en communication

Organization of World Heritage Cities

Women's Federation for World Peace International

World Confederation of Productivity Science (WCPS)

Special consultative status

American Bar Association

American Jewish Committee

Anti-Racism Information Service (ARIS)

Asian Federation of Laryngectomees Association (AFLA)

Association des habitants d'El Mourouj 2

Association Fès-Saiss

Association lumière et espoir pour les filles aveugles

Association of Refugees and Displaced Persons of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina

Association of the Bar of the City of New York, The

Association pour la protection de la nature et de l'environment, Kairouan

ATLAS - Association Tunisienne pour l'Auto-Développement et la Solidarité

Australian Catholic Social Justice Council (ACSJC)

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad

Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies

Canadian Chemical Producers' Association, The

Canadian Council of Churches

Canadian Environmental Network

Canadian Voice of Women for Peace

Center for Reproductive Law and Policy (CRLP), The

Centro de Investigación Social, Formación y Estudios de la Mujer (CISFEM)

Félix Varela Center

Children of a Better Time

CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation

Collectif 95 Maghreb Egalité

Comité d'action pour les droits de l'enfant et de la femme (CADEF)

Comité maritime international

Communication and Development Institute

Confederation of Business Women of Russia

Congress of Black Women of Canada, The (CBWC)

Conseil national de la jeunesse et de l'avenir (CNJA)

Consortium for Street Children, The

Council on Economic Priorities

December Twelfth Movement International Secretariat

Development through Savings and Credit

English International Association of Lund, The (Sweden)

Egyptian Red Crescent Society

Energy 21

Enfants du monde - Droits de l'homme

Equality Now

Equilibre

European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages (EBLUL)

European Law Students' Association (ELSA), The

Family Care International

Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas (FAWCO)

Federation of Cuban Women

Fondation canadienne des droits de la personne

Fondation El Kef pour le développement régional

Fondation MAMAN HENRIETTE CONTE

Fondazione San Patrignano

Foundation for International Training (FIT)

GCS (Global Cooperation for a Brighter Society)

Geneva International Peace Research Institute

Indian Movement 'Tupaj Amaro'

INNU Council of Nitassinan (INNU Nation)

Institut arabe des droits de l'homme

Institute for War and Peace Reporting

Integrated Care Society

International Association Against Drug Abuse and Drug Trafficking (IAADADT)

International Association of Intercultural Studies (IAIS)

International Black Sea Club

International Centre for Ethnic Studies

International Council of Human Duties

International Critical Incident Stress Foundation

International Federation of Building and Wood Workers (IFBWW)

International Federation of Catholic Medical Associations (FIAMC)

International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights (IHF)

International Islamic Charitable Organization

International Organisation for the Provision of Work for Persons with Disabilities and who are Occupationally Handicapped (IPWH)

International Women Bond

Islamic World Studies Centre

Latin American and Caribbean Continental Organization of Students (OCLAE)

League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS)

Learning for a Sustainable Future (LSF)

Mani Tese '76

Mega-Cities Project, Inc., The

Mother and Child African Relief Organization

Narcotics Anonymous World Services

National Action Committee on the Status of Women (NAC) (Canada)

National Anti-Poverty Organization

National Association of Cuban Economists

National Council for Research on Women

National Council of Women of Canada

National Tropical Botanical Garden

National Union of Jurists of Cuba, The

NAVJYOTI (Delhi Police Foundation for Correction, De-Addiction and Rehabilitation)

Network of Women's Non-Governmental Organizations in the Islamic Republic of Iran

Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)

Open Society Institute

Organisation tunisienne de l'éducation et de la famille

Partenariat afrique Canada (PAC)

Peace Child International

Professional Association of Independent Institutions concerned with Addiction (Fachverband Freier Einrichungen in der Suchtarbeit (FES))

PSU Foundation (Programme Support Unit Foundation)

Public Services International

Publication and Coordination Centre of Islamic Ideology and Sufi-ism

Qatar Charitable Society

Réseau femmes africaines et droits humains (REFAD)
Rivers Club
Rural Enterprising as a Community Help (REACH)
Rural Reconstruction Nepal
Society for Development of Services in Heliopolis, The
Stichting Samenwerking Vastenaktie/CEBEMO
Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL), The
Synergos Institute Inc.
Teenage Mother Civil Association
Treaty Four
Unitarian Universalist Association
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee
United for Intercultural Action
Wellstart International
Women's National Commission
Women's Political Network of Pennsylvania (USA)
World Evangelical Fellowship (WEF)

Roster

AEF International
Catholic Women's League Australia Incorporated (CWLA)
Caucasians United for Reparations and Emancipation (CURE/AFRE)
Deprived Child! And You
Edison Electric Institute (EEI)
Education Center for Women in Democracy (ECWD)
European Boating Association, The (EBA)
European Union of Developers and House Builders (UEPC)
Federation of Zoroastrian Associations of North America (FEZANA)
Foundation for Democracy in Africa
International Association for Natural Gas Vehicles (IANGV)
International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities
International Council of Toy Industries, Ltd. (ICTI)
Institute of Objective Studies (IOS)
Métis National Council

Medical Care Development International (MCD)

Oceans Institute of Canada

Rural Advancement Foundation International (RAFI)

Société internationale de droit militaire et de droit de la guerre

3HO Foundation, Inc. (Healthy, Happy, Holy Organization, Inc.)

DRAFT DECISION II

Resumed 1997 session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

The Economic and Social Council decides to authorize the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to hold a resumed session for a period of one week in January 1998 in order to complete the work of its 1997 session.

DRAFT DECISION III

Meetings of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

The Economic and Social Council decides:

(a) To authorize the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to hold a maximum of three sessions with a total duration of three weeks in 1998 and, unless the Committee subsequently recommends otherwise, in subsequent years;

(b) To authorize the Committee to hold informal meetings prior to each session in 1998 and subsequent years for the purpose of clarifying matters arising from applications for consultative status;

(c) To authorize the Committee to meet for five days prior to its 1998 session to consider enlargement of the Committee and issues related to the Committee's methods of work.

C. Decision brought to the attention of the Council

3. The following decision of the Committee is brought to the attention of the Council:

Consideration of applications for consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations decides that it will not consider applications for consultative status that, six weeks prior to the relevant session of the Committee, are incomplete or that otherwise contain technical deficiencies with respect to the provisions of Economic and Social

Council resolution 1996/31 and other relevant decisions of the Council or the Committee and, in that regard, requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To inform non-governmental organizations applying for consultative status that applications that are incomplete or that otherwise contain technical deficiencies will not be considered by the Committee;

(b) To avoid presenting applications that are incomplete or that otherwise contain technical deficiencies to the Committee and to provide the Committee with a list of such applications.

II. APPLICATIONS FOR CONSULTATIVE STATUS RECEIVED FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

A. Applications for consultative status deferred from the 1996 session of the Committee

4. At its resumed 1995 session, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations had decided to defer further consideration of the application of the International Energy Foundation until its 1996 session (see E/1996/17, para. 5).

5. At its 1996 session, the Committee had decided to defer further consideration of the application of the International Energy Foundation until its 1997 session (see E/1996/102, para. 4).

6. At its 633rd meeting, on 16 May 1997, the Committee decided to pursue its consideration of the application at its meeting on 12 June 1997.

7. At the 634th meeting, on 12 June, the representative of Cuba proposed that the Committee recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it grant special consultative status to the International Energy Foundation. A roll-call vote was then requested by the representative of the United States of America. The proposal was rejected by 6 votes to 6, with 6 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: China, Cuba, India, Russian Federation, Sudan, Tunisia.

Against: Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Ireland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Ethiopia, Greece, Indonesia, Paraguay, Philippines, Swaziland.

8. The representative of the Sudan stated that her delegation had voted in favour of the proposal on the merits of the application of the organization, the additional information provided by the organization and the explanation provided by its representative. She had taken note of the statement of one delegation about the existence of some other information concerning the organization. However, the information referred to had not been provided to the Committee. In her view, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, being the custodian of consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, should make sure that justice prevailed for all non-governmental organizations; decisions on consultative status should be based on transparency and the concrete information available to the Committee.

9. The Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 1995, had decided to refer the application of the International Committee of Peace and Human Rights back to the Committee for further consideration (Council decision 1995/305, subpara. (d)).

10. At its 1996 session, the Committee had taken note of a letter from the organization stating that it would be appropriate for the Committee to suspend

consideration of the application of the International Committee of Peace and Human Rights, without prejudice, for one year (see E/1996/102, para. 5).

11. At its 631st meeting, on 15 May 1997, the Committee decided to defer consideration of the application of the International Committee of Peace and Human Rights to its 1998 session. The Committee also decided that the organization should be asked to provide the information requested by the Committee at its 1996 session.

12. At its 1996 session, the Committee had taken note of a communication from the Center of Studies on the Americas, stating that the organization did not wish to have its application considered during the first part of the 1996 session. The Committee instructed the Secretariat to ascertain whether the organization wished its application to be considered at the second part of the 1996 session or at the 1997 session. The Committee was subsequently informed that the organization wished its application to be considered at the 1997 session (see E/1996/102, para. 7).

13. At its 1997 session, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations had before it the application of the Center of Studies on the Americas and was subsequently informed by the organization that it intended to reapply in the future.

14. At its 1996 session, the Committee had decided to defer consideration of the application of Felege Guihon International to its 1997 session (see E/1996/102, para. 28).

15. At its 620th meeting, on 8 May 1997, the Committee decided not to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that Felege Guihon International be granted consultative status.

16. At its 1996 session, the Committee had decided to defer consideration of the application of the Citizens' Disaster Response Centre Foundation to its 1997 session (see E/1996/102, para. 29).

17. At its 615th meeting, on 5 May 1997, the Committee decided to defer consideration of the application of the Citizens' Disaster Response Centre Foundation to its 1998 session.

18. At its 1996 session, the Committee had decided to defer consideration of the application of the Eagle Forum to its 1997 session (see E/1996/102, para. 29).

19. At its 631st meeting, on 15 May 1997, the Committee decided to defer consideration of the application of the Eagle Forum to its 1998 session.

20. At its 1996 session, the Committee had decided that the Foundation for Democracy in Africa should be invited to reapply in 1997 on the basis of a new questionnaire (see E/1996/102, para. 32).

21. At its 616th meeting, on 6 May 1997, the Committee decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that the Foundation for Democracy in Africa be granted Roster status.

22. At its 1996 session, the Committee had decided to defer consideration of the application of Christians for Crime Prevention (GCFK/CFCP) to its 1997 session (see E/1996/102, para. 33).

23. At its 620th meeting, on 8 May 1997, the Committee decided not to recommend to the Council that Christians for Crime Prevention (GCFK/CFCP) be granted consultative status.

24. At its 1996 session, the Committee had decided to defer consideration of the application of Deprived Child! And You to its 1997 session (see E/1996/102, para. 33).

25. At its 616th meeting, on 6 May 1997, the Committee decided to recommend to the Council that Deprived Child! And You be granted Roster status.

26. At its 1996 session, the Committee had decided to defer consideration of the application of the Foundation for Research on International Environment, National Development and Security (FRIENDS) to its 1997 session (see E/1996/102, para. 33).

27. At its 620th meeting, on 8 May 1997, the Committee decided not to recommend to the Council that the Foundation for Research on International Environment, National Development and Security (FRIENDS) be granted consultative status.

28. At its 1996 session, the Committee had decided to defer consideration of the application of the World League for Freedom and Democracy to its 1997 session (see E/1996/102, para. 34).

29. At its 617th meeting, on 6 May 1997, the Committee took note of a letter from the World League for Freedom and Democracy asking that consideration of its application be deferred to the 1998 session.

30. At its 1996 session, the Committee had decided to defer further consideration of the application of the Publication and Coordination Centre of Islamic Ideology and Sufi-ism to its 1997 session (see E/1996/102, para. 33).

31. At its 633rd meeting, on 16 May 1997, the Committee decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that the Publication and Coordination Centre of Islamic Ideology and Sufi-ism be granted special consultative status.

32. At its 1996 session, the Committee had decided to defer further consideration of the application of the Rivers Club to its 1997 session (see E/1996/102, para. 33).

33. At its 633rd meeting, on 16 May 1997, the Committee decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that the Rivers Club be granted special consultative status.

34. At its 1996 session, the Committee had decided to defer further consideration of the application of the Faith and Hope Foundation to its 1997 session (see E/1996/102, para. 17).

35. At its 634th meeting, on 12 June, the Committee decided not to recommend to the Council that the Faith and Hope Foundation be granted consultative status. The Committee also decided to invite the organization to reapply at a future date.

36. The Committee decided to recommend that the Economic and Social Council grant the following non-governmental organizations consultative status:

Special consultative status

Publication and Coordination Centre of Islamic Ideology and Sufi-ism
Rivers Club

Roster

Deprived Child! And You
Foundation for Democracy in Africa

B. New applications for consultative status

37. At its 1996 session, the Committee had decided that the Centre for the Advancement of North Korean Human Rights should be invited to reapply for consultative status at the 1997 session on the basis of a new questionnaire (see E/1996/102, para. 6).

38. At its 621st meeting, on 8 May 1997, the Committee took note of a letter from the organization requesting the Committee to defer the consideration of its application until the submission of a new application. The Committee decided that the application should be eliminated from the agenda.

39. At its 624th meeting, on 12 May, the representative of Cuba proposed that the Committee recommend that the Economic and Social Council grant special consultative status to the National Association of Cuban Economists.

40. The proposal was adopted by a roll-call vote of 15 to 1, with 2 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ethiopia, Greece, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Paraguay, Philippines, Russian Federation, Sudan, Swaziland, Tunisia.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Bulgaria, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

41. After the proposal was adopted, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America.

42. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America requested a vote on the proposal to recommend that the Economic and Social Council grant special consultative status to the Félix Varela Center.

43. The proposal was adopted by a roll-call vote of 16 to 1, with 1 abstention. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Bulgaria, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ethiopia, Greece, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Paraguay, Russian Federation, Sudan, Swaziland, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Philippines.

44. After the proposal was adopted, a statement was made by the representative of the Sudan.

45. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America requested that a vote be taken on the proposal to recommend that the Economic and Social Council grant special consultative status to the National Union of Jurists of Cuba. The proposal was adopted by a roll-call vote of 13 to 1, with 3 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ethiopia, Greece, India, Indonesia, Paraguay, Russian Federation, Sudan, Swaziland, Tunisia.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Bulgaria, Ireland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

46. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America requested that a vote be taken on the proposal to recommend to the Council that special consultative status be granted to the Federation of Cuban Women. The proposal was adopted by a roll-call vote of 16 to 1, with 1 abstention. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Bulgaria, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ethiopia, Greece, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Paraguay, Philippines, Russian Federation, Sudan, Swaziland, Tunisia.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

47. After the proposal was adopted, statements were made by the representatives of Cuba, China and the United States of America.

48. At its 626th meeting, on 13 May, the Committee decided not to recommend to the Council that the Kashmiri-Canadian Council (KCC) be granted consultative status.

49. At its 628th meeting, on 14 May, the representative of the United States of America requested a vote on the proposal to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that special consultative status be granted to the Latin American and Caribbean Continental Organization of Students (OCLAE). The proposal was adopted by a roll-call vote of 14 to 1, with 1 abstention. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Bulgaria, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ethiopia, Greece, Indonesia, Madagascar, Paraguay, Philippines, Russian Federation, Swaziland, Tunisia.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

50. The representative of India stated that, had his delegation been present during the vote, it would have voted in favour of the proposal.

51. At the same meeting, the Committee decided that the Society for Urban and Rural Advancement (SURA) should apply for association with the Department of Public Information.

52. At its 631st meeting, on 15 May, the Committee decided to defer further consideration of the application of the Jewish Agency for Israel to its session in 1998.

53. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America requested a vote on a ruling made by the Chairman that a communication would be transmitted to the English International Association of Lund (Sweden) containing the query from the representative of the Sudan as to why the organization could not provide the names of its individual members.

54. Statements were made by the representatives of Cuba, Costa Rica, China, India, Ethiopia, Ireland, the United States of America, the Sudan, Madagascar, Chile, the Philippines, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Indonesia.

55. The Committee then voted on the ruling, which was upheld by 7 votes to 5, with 2 abstentions.

56. At its 632nd meeting, on 16 May, the Committee decided to defer further consideration of the application of the Assyrian National Congress to its 1998 session.

57. At its 634th meeting, on 12 June, the Committee decided to defer consideration of the following applications to its resumed 1997 session, in January 1998:

Asian Legal Resource Centre
Centre de recherches et de promotion pour la sauvegarde des sites et monuments historiques en Afrique
Humanity International

58. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to defer consideration of the application of the Program for Research and Documentation for a Sustainable Society (PROSUS) to its 1998 session.

59. Also at the same meeting, the Committee reaffirmed the view that, consistent with the provisions of Council resolutions 1296 (XLIV) and 1996/31 and the practice of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, universities and schools and political parties were not eligible for consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, and that therefore the applications of Centro Universitario Grupo Sol and the French Communist Party would not be acted on by the Committee.

60. At its 635th meeting, on 12 June, the Committee decided to recommend that the Economic and Social Council grant special consultative status to the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies.

61. The representative of Cuba stated that Cuba had joined the consensus, but wished to place on record its reservation with regard to the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies for the following reasons:

(a) The Institute was completely financed by external sources - inter alia, Governments - in Western countries in particular;

(b) Its activities did not appear to deal with all human rights, being focused on civil and political rights;

(c) Its sources of financing included the National Endowment for Democracy, a fund established by the United States Congress at the height of the cold war with political and ideological objectives.

62. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to recommend that the Council grant special consultative status to the Islamic World Studies Centre.

63. The representative of the United States of America stated that her delegation wished to dissociate itself from the decision since the Islamic World Studies Centre appeared not to have faithfully revealed all sources of government funding.

64. The representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland stated that her delegation wished to dissociate itself from the decision since it had doubts regarding the independance of Islamic World Studies Center.

65. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to recommend that the Council grant special consultative status to the Qatar Charitable Society.

66. The representative of the United States of America stated that her delegation wished to dissociate itself from the decision, since the Qatar Charitable Society might be involved in activities inconsistent with the Charter of the United Nations.

67. The representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland stated that her delegation wished to dissociate itself from the decision, since it had doubts regarding the independence of the organization.

68. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to recommend that the Council grant special consultative status to Mother and Child African Relief Organization (MACARO).

69. The representative of the United States of America stated that her delegation was of the view that the organization did not deserve special consultative status because of its unproved track record and the narrow scope and extent of its activities.

70. At its 635th meeting, on 12 June, the Committee decided to defer consideration of the application of the African Muslims Agency to its resumed 1997 session, in January 1998. The representative of the Sudan made the following statement:

"We support this organization and we believe the response provided by it was adequate and its application accurately fits Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31. However, while we will not stand in the way of postponing acting on this non-governmental organization, we would like to reiterate that the Sudan detects the development of a trend in this Committee pertaining to creating problems which make it difficult for non-governmental organizations from a particular region of the world, namely, the Islamic world, to obtain consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. We have seen delegations declare that they are not part of some decisions relating to non-governmental organizations from this part of the world and the decision concerning this non-governmental organization falls into the same category. We believe the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations should refrain from adopting a non-technical approach and base its recommendation for the granting of the appropriate consultative status to non-governmental organizations on the basis of the merits of the case and not due to other biases and considerations."

71. The Committee decided to recommend that the Economic and Social Council grant consultative status to 142 non-governmental organizations (see sect. I.B above, draft decision I).

III. IMPLEMENTATION OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL DECISION 1996/302

72. At its 635th meeting, on 12 June 1997, the Committee decided to postpone consideration of item 5 of its agenda to its resumed 1997 session, to be held in January 1998.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1996/31 AND DECISION 1995/304

73. The Committee considered item 6 of its agenda at its 629th, 634th and 635th meetings, on 14 May and 12 June 1997.

74. The Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur of the Committee, Mr. Wahid Ben Amor (Tunisia), on behalf of the African States, requested that the following statement, which he made during the 1997 session of the Committee, be reflected in the Committee's report:

"I wish to make a number of clarifications regarding the working methods of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.

"Firstly, with respect to the chairmanship of the Committee, it is our view that there is an inviolable rule which must be respected, namely that of rotation, which has always constituted the basis of the organization of work of all the subsidiary organs of the Economic and Social Council.

"Regrettably, this rule has never been respected in this Committee. It is also regrettable that, in contrast to the situation in the only exception, namely the Commission on the Status of Women, this state of affairs has not really helped to improve the organization of the Committee's methods of work:

"The increase in applications to be considered by the Committee at each of its sessions has not been accompanied by any increase in the necessary resources;

"Members of the Committee must often work on the basis of untranslated documents;

"The Committee must meet for informal consultations without interpretation services;

"Lastly, the Secretariat, whose great efforts to make our work easier I wish to emphasize, is overwhelmed owing to a lack of human and financial resources.

"The situation being as it is, the African States are of the view that the Committee, as a matter of extreme urgency, must seriously consider the situation with a view to finding comprehensive solutions for the future and allowing the Committee to discharge its functions under satisfactory conditions like other subsidiary organs of the Council.

"In this regard we cannot allow this Committee to be considered the poor relation of the Economic and Social Council and for it to be marginalized.

"For all these reasons we support all initiatives aimed at improving the working methods of the Committee, including election of the Bureau.

"In this regard the African States are not opposed to two successive terms for the Bureau of the Committee, if the members of the Committee so agree and if that could contribute to an improvement in methods of work.

"Lastly, the African States are of the view that the Chairman in general, and this is particularly true of this Committee, must become more involved in strengthening the Committee and cannot simply guide discussion on one or other non-governmental organization."

75. At the 629th meeting, on 14 May, statements were made by the representatives of Cuba, India, Tunisia, the Sudan, the Russian Federation, Ireland, China, the Philippines, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Costa Rica, Madagascar and the United States of America and the observers for the Syrian Arab Republic and France.

A. Enlargement of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

76. At its 635th meeting, on 12 June, the Committee had before it a draft resolution (see E/C.2/1997/L.2) entitled "Enlargement of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations", submitted by the Acting Chairman on the basis of informal consultations.

77. At the same meeting, the representative of India proposed an amendment to the second preambular paragraph, by which the words "consistent with the practice of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies in these matters" would be inserted between the words "Considering that" and "it would be desirable".

78. The Committee then adopted the draft resolution, as orally amended (see sect. I.A above, draft resolution I).

B. Strengthening of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the United Nations Secretariat

79. At its 635th meeting, on 12 June, the Committee had before it a draft resolution (see E/C.2/1997/L.2) entitled "Strengthening of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the United Nations Secretariat", submitted by the Acting Chairman on the basis of informal consultations.

80. Statements were made by the representatives of Cuba, Tunisia, the United States of America, Costa Rica, China, Ethiopia, the Sudan and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

81. The representative of Cuba proposed an amendment to the draft resolution, by which, in operative paragraph 1, the brackets and the words "fifty-third" would be deleted, so that the paragraph would read:

"1. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session setting out specific proposals to

ensure that the current and foreseeable workload of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section can be met effectively and efficiently".

82. The representative of the United States of America requested that a roll-call vote be taken on the amendment proposed by Cuba, which was adopted by 12 votes to 1, with 3 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Madagascar, Philippines, Sudan, Tunisia.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Greece, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

83. Before the amendment was adopted, statements were made by the representatives of India, the Philippines, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Costa Rica, the Sudan and the Russian Federation.

84. The Committee then adopted the draft resolution, as orally amended, by roll-call vote of 14 to 1, with 1 abstention (see sect. I.A above, draft resolution II). The voting was a follows:

In favour: Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ethiopia, Greece, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Madagascar, Philippines, Russian Federation, Sudan, Tunisia.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

85. After the draft resolution was adopted, statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Costa Rica.

C. Meetings of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

86. At its 635th meeting, on 12 June, the Committee had before it a draft decision (see E/C.2/1997/L.2) entitled "Meetings of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations", submitted by the Acting Chairman of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations.

87. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of China, Cuba, the Sudan, the United States of America, Ethiopia, Tunisia, Madagascar, Costa Rica and the Russian Federation.

88. On the proposal of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, subparagraph (a), which read:

"(a) To authorize the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to hold three one-week sessions in 1998 [and subsequent years]",

was amended to read:

"(a) To authorize the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to hold a maximum of three sessions with a total duration of three weeks in 1998 and, unless the Committee subsequently recommends otherwise, in subsequent years".

89. The Committee then adopted the draft decision, as orally amended (see sect. I.B above, draft decision III).

D. Consideration of applications for consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

90. At its 635th meeting, on 12 June, the Committee had before it a draft decision (see E/C.2/1997/L.2) entitled "Consideration of applications for consultative status with the Economic and Social Council", submitted by the Acting Chairman of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations.

91. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft decision (see sect. I.C above).

E. Revision of the application questionnaire

92. At its 1996 session, the Committee had noted that it was necessary to revise the application questionnaire in the light of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31, bearing in mind the need to streamline documentation and the increasing number of applications for consultative status (see E/1996/102, para. 46).

93. At its 635th meeting, on 12 June, the Committee adopted the revised version of the questionnaire (see annex I below).

F. Request for a special report pursuant to paragraph 61 (c) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31

94. At the 634th meeting, on 12 June, the representative of Cuba requested that the attention of the Committee be brought to a matter concerning a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

95. At the 635th meeting, on 12 June, the Committee considered the information provided by the representative of Cuba regarding an incident at the United Nations Office at Geneva involving the International Association of Educators for World Peace, a non-governmental organization on the Roster. The Committee requested the Secretariat to request the organization to provide an explanation regarding the incident.

96. The representative of the United States requested a roll-call vote on the proposal to request a special report from a non-governmental organization pursuant to paragraph 61 (c) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31. The proposal was adopted by a roll-call vote of 9 to 4, with 4 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Madagascar, Sudan, Tunisia.

Against: Greece, Ireland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Chile, Paraguay, Philippines, Russian Federation.

97. Before the proposal was adopted, statements were made by the representatives of Chile, Paraguay and the United Kingdom.

V. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

98. At its 633rd meeting, on 16 May 1997, the Committee adopted the draft report contained in document E/C.2/1997/L.1 and authorized the Rapporteur to complete it.

VI. ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE SESSION

A. Opening and duration of the session

99. The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations held its 1997 session from 5 to 16 May and on 12 June 1997. The Committee held 22 meetings (614th to 635th meetings).

B. Attendance

100. The representatives of the following States members of the Committee attended the session: Bulgaria, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ethiopia, Greece, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Madagascar, Paraguay, Philippines, Russian Federation, Sudan, Swaziland, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

101. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented by observers: Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Eritrea, France, Germany, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Venezuela.

102. The following non-member State was represented by an observer: Holy See.

103. The following other organization, having received a standing invitation to participate as an observer in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly, was represented by an observer: Palestine.

104. The following specialized agencies were represented: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization.

105. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: general consultative status: Franciscans International, International Chamber of Commerce, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions; special consultative status: United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation; Roster: International Association of Educators for World Peace.

C. Election of officers

106. At the 614th meeting, on 5 May, the Committee elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairman: Fidel Coloma (Chile)

Vice-Chairmen: Valentin Hadjiiski (Bulgaria)
John D. Biggar (Ireland)
Wahid Ben Amor (Tunisia) (serving also as Rapporteur)

D. Agenda

107. At the 614th meeting, on 5 May, the Committee adopted the provisional agenda for its 1997 session, as contained in document E/C.2/1997/1. The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations:

   (a) Applications for consultative status deferred from the 1996 session of the Committee;

   (b) New applications for consultative status and new requests for reclassification.

4. Review of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, general and special categories.

5. Implementation of Economic and Social Council decision 1996/302.

6. Implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 and decision 1995/304.

7. Provisional agenda and documentation for the session of the Committee to be held in 1998.

8. Adoption of the report of the Committee.

E. Resumed 1997 session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

108. At its 633rd meeting, on 16 May, the Committee decided to recommend that the Economic and Social Council adopt the following draft decision (see sect. I.B. above, draft decision II), which was read out by the Chairman of the Committee:

"The Economic and Social Council decides to authorize the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to hold a resumed session for a period of one week in January 1998 in order to complete the work of its 1997 session."

Annex I

APPLICATION FOR CONSULTATIVE STATUS WITH THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Part I: Components of a completed application

A completed application package for consultative status consists of the following:

A. Copy of constitution/charter and/or statutes/by-laws (pursuant to paragraph 10 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31).

B. Where it is a legal requirement in the country concerned, registration papers in the country where the organization is incorporated/holds tax exemption status and/or non-profit status. Where such registration is not a legal requirement, the organization should supply other evidence of establishment acceptable to the Committee. The document should be on official letterhead and dated.

C. A copy of the last completed year's financial statement. An audited financial statement is preferred. The financial statement should clearly indicate the sources of income, including but not limited to contributions from members, funds received from Governments and intergovernmental sources (specify), and funds received from private foundations.

D. 1. List of associations and groups affiliated with the organization filing an application.

2. List of associations or groups to which the organization filing an application is affiliated.

E. A copy of the organization's publications and some of the more recent articles related to United Nations activities.

F. A completed questionnaire (part II of this package).

G. A completed summary of the application (part III of this package).

Part II: Questionnaire

1. **Name of organization (please provide translation in English or French):**

Indicate the type of consultative status for which you are applying (pursuant to part III of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31):

GENERAL_____ SPECIAL_____ ROSTER_____

2. **Headquarters address (include postal/telephone/fax/E-mail, as appropriate):**

3. **Date of registration/incorporation (this date should match the date of the document provided under part I, section B above). Pursuant to paragraph 61 (h) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31, 'an organization that applies for consultative status should attest that it has been in existence for at least two years as at the date of receipt of the application by the Secretariat':**

4. **In accordance with paragraph 8 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31, state whether your organization is:**

International_____ National_____

5. Purpose and activities of your organization.

(a) Summarize in the space provided (half a page) the general aims of your organization as they relate to the work of the Economic and Social Council and which appear in its constitution or by-laws:

(b) List in general terms in the space provided (half a page) the ways in which your organization carries out those aims (e.g., conferences, projects):

6. Structure and decision-making process of your organization:

(a) Describe the decision-making process of the organization including each policy-making or administrative body (e.g., general conference, executive board), stating how often they meet, their composition and their chief powers and functions:

(b) Describe the relationship, other than financial, of the organization with any Government with respect to its management, as well as to the orientation of its activities:

7. Geographical membership:

List the number of members by country and continent and indicate whether they are associations and/or individuals. Indicate the total number of members (United Nations terminology with respect to territories and countries must be used in all documents provided).

8. Provide a brief profile of your organization's membership (e.g., professional members, women, older persons) and indicate if there are any restrictions on membership:

9. List your current officers, including senior members of your executive staff, indicating their nationalities in brackets after their names. Please indicate if any government officials are on the staff of your organization. Also indicate if officers are elected on a geographical basis:

10. In addition to the financial information provided under part I, section C above, please summarize the income (including sources of funding) and expenditure for the current year:

(a) Details of total income and sources of funds:

Membership dues:

Governments:

Intergovernmental organizations:

Other NGOs:

Contracts:

Other sources:

(b) Details of total expenditure:

Administration:

Projects:

Other activities:

11. In the past five years, has the organization received any contribution, in money or in kind, from a Government or from an intergovernmental source either directly or indirectly? If so, give details of the amounts, and dates received, and indicate for what purposes the funding or in-kind contributions were used:

12. Indicate the substantive areas of concern to the United Nations to which your organization has contributed or intends to contribute, and indicate the United Nations body in which your organization has participated or intends to participate (see parts IV and V of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31):

(a) PAST AND CURRENT ACTIVITIES:

(b) PLANNED ACTIVITIES (if granted status):

13. Name of any publications (e.g., magazines, newsletters, books), in all languages published, that your organization may produce, indicating how often they appear and the geographical distribution:

Part III: Summary of the application for consultative status

Name:	
Address:	
Category requested: ☐ General ☐ Special ☐ Roster	
Date established:	

Membership (check one, and provide the requested figures)

☐ The organization is a national organization, with _____ individual members, and ____ organization members.

☐ The organization is an international organization, with ____ individual members and ____ organization members in ____ countries.

Summary of financial statement for year _____

Income:

Membership dues:
Contributions from Governments:
Contributions from intergovernmental organizations:
Contributions from other non-governmental organizations:
Revenue from contracts etc.:
Other income:

Total income:

Expenditure:

Administration:
Projects:
Other activities:

Total expenditure:

In no more than 400 words:

- Summarize the aims and activities of your organization
- Indicate how your organization intends to participate in the work of the Economic and Social Council

Annex II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE AT ITS 1997 SESSION

Document number	Agenda item	Title or description
E/C.2/1997/1	2	Provisional agenda
E/C.2/1997/INF/1	-	List of delegations
E/C.2/1997/L.1	8	Draft report
E/C.2/1997/L.2	6	Draft proposals submitted by the Acting Chairman on the basis of informal consultations
E/C.2/1997/R.1	3 (a)	Deferred applications for consultative status
E/C.2/1997/R.2 and Add.1-16	3 (b)	New applications for consultative status

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Geneva, 30 June-25 July 1997
Agenda item 13 (a)

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Corrigendum

Page 8

After National Council of Women of Canada insert National Association for the Protection of the Environment

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